REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 26, 2008. Claims 8-10, 16-18 and 24 are presented for examination, of which Claims 8 and 16 are in independent form. Claims 1-7, 11-15, 19-23 and 25-29, including all the non-elected claims, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and will not be mentioned further. Claims 8, 9, 16, 17 and 24 have been amended to define Applicants' invention more clearly. The title has also been amended. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 24, in which the preamble has been rewritten as kindly suggested by the Examiner, so as to be directed to "A computer-readable medium encoding a program containing instructions for making a computer execute a method of claim 16", conforms to the USPTO's guidelines on statutory subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of that rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action states that Claims 8-10, 16-18 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,690,911 (Yamagishi). Applicants submit that independent Claims 8 and 16, together with the claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 8 is an information processing apparatus, which is connected to a printing apparatus, and having a printer driver which issues control commands causing the printing apparatus to execute a 2 sided print processing of body text and tab data on print sheets and tab print sheet, respectively.

Particularly, the information processing apparatus has a setup reception unit configured to receive a print setup for the 2 sided print processing of the tab print sheet using a user interface of the printer driver. The information processing apparatus issues a first control command, a second control command, a pause command and a third command according to the received 2 sided print setup for the tab print sheet.

Furthermore, in the apparatus of Claim 8, when the back side of the tab print sheet is printed, the tab data used in the printing of the front side of the tab print sheet is used for printing of the back side as well, by converting its location into a mirror image of its position on the front side.

Yamagishi relates to an image forming apparatus using a sheet reversing and discharging device capable of reversing an printed ordinary sheet and a printed tab sheet and conveying them. However, Yamagishi does not disclose 2 side print processing of the tab print sheet. The reversing mechanism is used to reverse the printed tab paper to be discharged, because the tab print sheet is conveyed upside-down, during the print process; as a result reversal is needed prior to discharge, to place the tab part toward the discharging direction, as is described in col. 1, lines 14-24.

Furthermore, Yamagishi does not disclose 2 sided printing setup. The cited description in Yamagishi on col. 7, lines 60-63, discusses only a tab sheet mode key, which does not relate to 2 sided print processing of the tab paper.

Accordingly, Yamagishi does not disclose, suggest or teach the issuance of control commands for 2 sided print process according to a received 2 sided print setup for the tab print sheet, as recited in Claim 8. In addition, Yamagishi does not disclose storing tab data used

in the printing of the front side of the tab print sheet, and using that stored tab data in a mirror image for the printing of the back side of the tab print sheet, as recited in Claim 8.

For these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 8 is allowable over Yamagishi, taken alone.

The Office Action also applied U.S. Patent No. 4,961,092 (Rabb) and U.S. Patent No. 4,313,673 (Wartinger) against certain of the claims. These patents, however, do not remedy the deficiencies of Yamagishi as prior art against the independent claims herein.

Rabb relates to a pre-programmed pauses post-collation copying system. Wartinger relates to duplex operation in a reproduction machine.

However, nothing in these two references is seen to relate to the issuance of control commands for double printing according to a received 2 sided print setup for tab print sheet, as in Claim 8, nor does either appear to teach or suggest storing tab data used in the printing of the front side of the tab print sheet, and using it in a mirror image for the printing of the back side of the tab print sheet, as in Claim 8.

Applicants submit, therefore, that even a combination of Yamagishi, Rabb and Wartinger, assuming such combination would even be permissible, would fail to teach or suggest the above technical features of Claim 8.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 8 is patentable over the cited art, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Independent Claim 16 includes a feature similar to that discussed above. Therefore, that claim also is believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or the other of the independent claims discussed above and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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